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# Agricultural Situation

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BELTSVILLE BRANCH

## 1962 CROP ACREAGE IS THE LOWEST OF RECORD

Crops planted for harvest in 1962 total 300 million acres, 10 million less than last year and the lowest planted acreage since records began in 1929. Reduced wheat allotments and diversion of additional acreage under the Wheat and Feed Grain Programs are major factors in the lower acreage

total. Acreage losses are expected to be lower than last year when drought plagued the Northern Plains States.

A total harvested acreage of 288 million is estimated currently. This is 8 million acres less than 1961 and the lowest all-crops total since records



The Crop Reporting Board, presided over by Glenn D. Simpson, reads State recommendations.

began in 1909. Winter wheat led the decline from last year's acreage with corn and oats the other major crops showing considerable reduction.

The Nation's crop progress was generally more advanced than normal on July 1. Winter grains were seeded early in the important central and southern Plains States although seeding of grain in Corn Belt areas was delayed by wet soils last fall. Winter losses were relatively high especially for barley and oats. High May temperatures speeded maturity at the expense of reduced yields, and combines started rolling 1 to 2 weeks ahead of the usual pace.

After a slow start spring work in the Corn Belt moved ahead of last year and average with record early completion of planting in the Eastern Corn Belt areas. Delays have occurred in Northern Corn Belt States where wet soils since mid-May have hampered field activity in sharp contrast to the near drought conditions of a year earlier. Crop development over most of the Corn Belt is well advanced and good yields are in prospect.

The South Central and South Atlantic States were dry last fall delaying seeding of winter grain and pasture crops. Winter rains brought needed moisture but cool weather until mid-April held back development. Planting of spring crops advanced rapidly until dry soils in late May slowed activity. June showers revived crop prospects but hampered cultivation and the completion of seeding.

Western States have been cool most of the spring with delayed development of crops. Frequent showers, particularly in the north, have also slowed work. Moisture supplies from spring rainfall and irrigation reserves are at favorable levels and crop prospects are generally bright in this region.

*Feed Grains:* Total feed grain tonnage is expected to be less than last year. A 3-percent smaller corn crop is forecast with a 2-percent decline in acreage and an expected yield of 61.2 bushels per acre compared with the record 1961 yield of 61.8 bushels. Sorghum acreage planted for all purposes increased 1 percent from last year. Oats production is expected to be 2 percent below 1961 as a higher yield only partly made up for a 4-percent reduction in acreage. Barley output will be only slightly below last year's crop which was held down by dry weather in important Northern Plains States.

*Food Grains:* Lower production of food grains is in prospect as a sharp reduction in wheat more than offset larger rice and rye crops. A 17-percent drop in acreage joined with a lower yield to reduce winter wheat output 22 percent below last year. Durum wheat production is two and one half times the drought-shortened 1961 total. Spring wheat other than durum also exceeds 1961 output as a higher yield more than offset a 16 percent drop in acreage. Rice production is indicated to be one-eighth larger as farmers expanded acreage in line with the full 10-percent increase in allotments, and yields are expected to exceed last year. Acreage and yield of rye are both above last year.

*Oilseeds:* Soybean acreage surpassed last year's record high by over 2 percent with expansion in most producing areas. Cotton acreage for 1962 is 1 percent less than a year earlier with lower upland cotton acreage partially offset by expanded plantings of American Egyptian cotton. Production of flaxseed is expected to be one fifth larger as both yield and acreage are above the drought-damaged 1961 crop. Acreage planted to peanuts is 1 percent less than last year.

*(Continued on page 9)*

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# 1961 TOBACCO RECEIPTS REACHED A RECORD HIGH

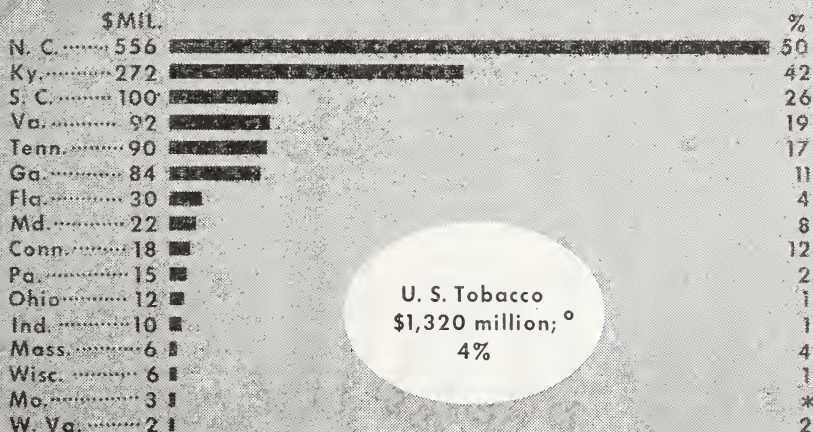
In calendar year 1961, U.S. growers received more money from the sale of tobacco than in any previous year. Cash receipts from tobacco totaled over \$1.3 billion—topping the previous record of 1955 by \$95 million. Tobacco accounted for about 4 percent of total cash receipts from all farm marketings and 8½ percent of that received from field crops. Among the field crops tobacco usually ranks fourth—the top three are wheat, cotton, and corn—but in 1961 tobacco ranked fifth because soybeans moved into fourth place.

The quantity of leaf tobacco sold in 1961 was larger than in each of the previous 4 years, though less than for several years prior to 1957. There are many kinds of tobacco grown in the United States, and most of the smaller-volume kinds did not have a record year. However, for flue-cured and burley, the two big cigarette tobaccos, which accounted for nine-tenths of the total volume sold, prices exceeded any previous year and cash receipts for them set new records.

North Carolina, the leading tobacco State, produces mainly flue-cured but also some burley. North Carolina had a record income from tobacco in 1961 and accounted for about two-fifths of the U.S. total. Kentucky, second ranking tobacco State, produces mainly burley but also fire-cured and dark air-cured tobacco. Kentucky had a record income from tobacco in 1961 and accounted for about a fifth of the U.S. total. South Carolina, a flue-cured-tobacco-producing State, ranked third, but 1961 income from tobacco was exceeded in one previous year—1955. However, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and Maryland (ranking next in that order) all had record cash receipts from tobacco in 1961. Growers' 1961 receipts from tobacco in the principal cigar-tobacco-producing States—Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Wisconsin—were below those of many previous years.

Arthur G. Conover  
*Economic Research Service*

## TOBACCO INCOME AND PERCENT OF CASH RECEIPTS FROM ALL FARM MARKETINGS, 1961



° INCLUDES SMALL AMOUNT FOR STATES NOT SHOWN.  
\* LESS THAN A HALF OF ONE PERCENT.

## 1961 VALUE OF SALES

# Cut Flowers—Little Change Nursery Products—Up Substantially

The value of sales in 1961 in six selected States for four cut flowers was up only slightly from 1959, the last year for which comparable data are available, while that of eight classes of nursery products was up substantially. These comparisons are based on the 1961 Horticultural Specialties Survey recently completed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, and New York.

For the cut flowers covered—carnations, roses, chrysanthemums, and gladiolus—California continues to lead the other five States in total value of sales accounting for \$19.4 million out of the six State total of \$56.2 million. Only roses showed a pronounced decrease from 1959 in dollar value due largely to reduced production in New York and Illinois. Both chrysanthemums and gladiolus showed moderate increases in value from 1959. Chrysanthemums were valued at \$18.2 million (pompons—\$10.2 million, standards—\$8 million), carnations—\$15.8 million, roses—\$11.6 million, and gladiolus—\$10.7 million. Within each of the States, the value of sales of each of these cut flowers was generally down except in California and Florida where it was up for all flowers.

Grower intentions for 1962 point to a continued expansion in carnation production in California and Colorado, which should more than offset the downward trend in Illinois and New York. Chrysanthemum production should also increase in each of the six States, except in Colorado where a sharp decrease in standards is expected to offset an increase in pompons. Standards are expected to increase in all other States, while fewer pompons are indicated in each of the States, except in Florida and Colorado where production should expand. Total rose production for the six States should remain about the same as in 1961, with increases in California and Florida offsetting decreases in Illinois and New York. Fewer gladiolus are planned in

each of the States, except California where a moderate increase is indicated.

The eight classes of nursery products included in the survey were—coniferous evergreens, broad-leaved evergreens, deciduous shade trees, deciduous shrubs, rose plants, deciduous fruit and nut trees, grape vines, and citrus and subtropical fruit trees. California continued to lead the other five States in sales for these nursery products and accounted for \$31.9 million out of the \$55.6 million reported for all 6 States. Each of the States, except Illinois, showed higher 1961 dollar sales than in 1959, although quantities sold in many instances were down from 1959.

For all six States, broad-leaved evergreens were valued at \$16.1 million, coniferous evergreens at \$13 million, citrus and subtropical fruit trees at \$7.4 million, rose plants at \$6.4 million, deciduous fruit and nut trees at \$4.9 million, deciduous shade trees at \$4.2 million, deciduous shrubs at \$3 million, and grape vines at \$0.5 million. Only deciduous shrubs, rose plants, and grape vines decreased in total value of sales.

For the future, a shift toward the growing and selling of more evergreens in place of deciduous shrubs is apparent. However, increases are indicated for deciduous shrubs as well as evergreens in both California and Colorado. There is also an apparent shift in the growing of rose plants, from New York and Iowa to other States. A general future expansion in California of all classes of nursery products, except for deciduous fruit and nut trees and grape vines, was also noted.

All values above represent equivalent wholesale values of sales.

L. A. Losleben  
*Statistical Reporting Service*

### The Farmer's Share

In May 1962 the farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar was 38 cents, the same as it was in April. In May 1961 the farmer's share was also 38 cents.



# A DECLINE IN HOG SLAUGHTER DURING SECOND HALF OF 1962

Hog slaughter in the first half of 1962 exceeded the same months of 1961 by about 4 percent, but second half supplies are expected to trail those of a year earlier. Such a decline is likely, because during the summer and fall, slaughter will be from the spring pig crop which was 2 percent smaller than a year ago.

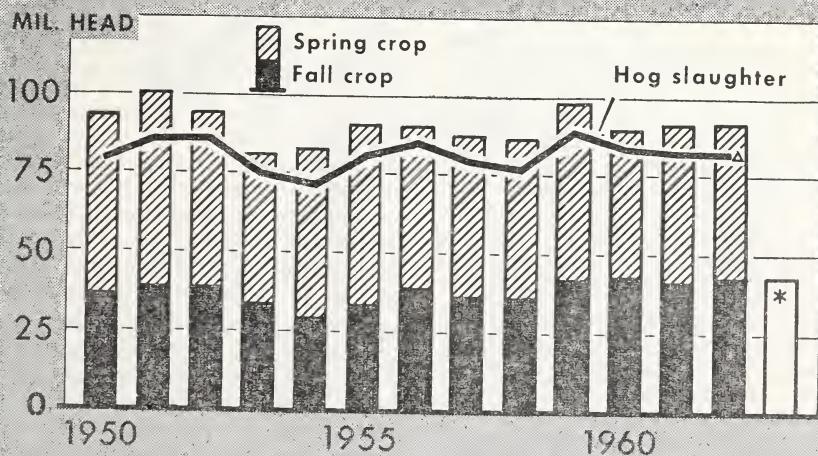
The recent pig crop report showed that there were about as many hogs on farms June 1, 1962, as a year earlier, but that the age distribution was different. Hogs 3-6 months old, December-February farrowings, totaled about the same as a year earlier while those under 3 months, March-May farrowings, were down 3 percent. There were 4 percent more hogs over 6 months of age on farms, but most of the pigs in this age group, other than sows, boars, and gilts being held back for fall farrowings, have already gone to slaughter.

Since it takes 6-8 months to raise hogs to market weights, supplies during the summer should be about the same as last summer, but lower for the remaining months of 1962 when hogs farrowed in the second half of the spring crop reach market age. On a per capita basis, pork will be even less abundant since population in the U.S. is growing at a rate of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  percent per year.

Hog raisers planned June 1 for 2 percent more fall-farrowings than last year. If litters are of average size the fall pig crop will be about 1 percent larger. If intentions are carried out, this would be a modest gain and pork production in the first half of 1963 would only exceed that of 1962 by a small margin with per capita supplies down slightly.

Donald Seaborg  
Economic Research Service

## PIG CROPS AND HOG SLAUGHTER



\* AS INDICATED BY INTENTIONS JUNE 1, 1962.  $\Delta$  PARTLY FORECAST  
PRECEDING FALL CROP AND SPRING CROP.

# CHICKENS RAISED THIS YEAR SMALLEST NUMBER OF RECORD

The number of young chickens raised for flock replacement this year is the lowest of record (since 1909). Chickens raised in 1962 are expected to total 316,977,000, compared with 345,025,000 last year—a decrease of 8 percent. All regions of the country, except the West, are showing decreases from last year. Greatest decreases are occurring in the West North Central and in the East North Central regions.

These estimates are based on reports as of June 1, obtained through the cooperation of rural mail carriers covering 172,000 farms in all parts of the country and supplemented by later information from crop correspondents and reports from commercial hatcheries.

Egg-type chicks hatched January through June 1962 totaled 385,992,000—down 7 percent from same period in 1961. Output of chicks during this period in 1962 was below the output of a year earlier in all months except June when output was 9 percent above the

June output in 1961. The number of layers in flocks on July 1, 1962, totaled 280,947,000—up 1 percent from July 1, 1961. Aggregate egg production, January through June, was up 2 percent from the corresponding period last year. The laying flock on January 1, 1963, is expected to be about 2 or 3 percent smaller than a year earlier.

Prices received by producers for eggs were below the corresponding months a year earlier from September 1961 to date. Feed prices during this period have not varied greatly from the prices paid during the same period a year earlier. The decrease in number of chickens raised reflects the lower egg-feed price relationship.

Alvin Potter  
*Statistical Reporting Service*



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## Less Than A Third Of Farm Youth Attend College

Farmers' children may not be sure of what they will do after graduation, but one thing most of them will not do is enter college. In 1960, for example, about half of all graduates from city high schools, but only a third of those from rural schools, were enrolled in college. Only 27 of every 100 youths from families headed by a farm worker were in college, compared with 63 of every 100 youths from white-collar families.

These are some results of a 1960 nationwide study conducted by the Bureau of Census and the Economic Research Service. The survey showed also that about 12 percent of rural-farm seniors failed to graduate from high school and had no chance to attend college in 1960.

Graduates most likely to enroll in college were those with definite plans

to do so early in their senior year in high school. Also, they were most often taking a college preparatory course in high school, scored in the top half of their class on measures of school ability and intelligence, and were from families with annual incomes of at least \$6,000. But even among the most able graduates, proportionately fewer youths from farm families than from white-collar families actually enrolled in college.

A complete report of the research is contained in *Factors Related to College Attendance of Farm and Nonfarm High School Graduates: 1960*, and may be obtained by writing to Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

James D. Cowhig  
*Economic Research Service*



# WHEAT . . . SMALL CROP, RECORD EXPORTS, HIGHER SUPPORTS



Wheat prices rose fairly steadily during the 1961-62 marketing year, reflecting record-heavy exports, a prospective small 1962 crop, and a higher price support rate. In June the price of No. 2 Hard Winter at Kansas City was 11 cents above the 1961 support of \$2.08 and the highest level of the marketing year.

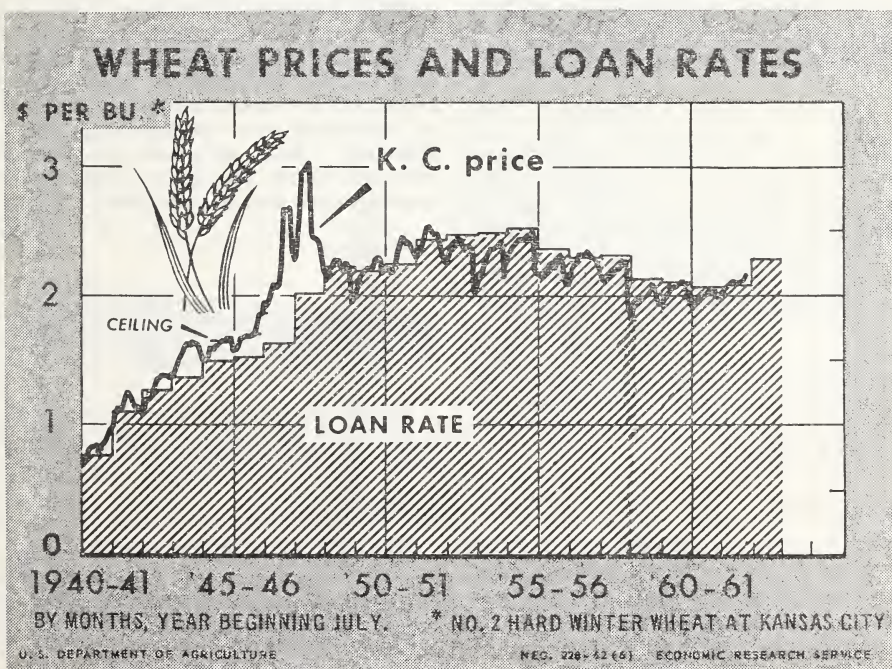
Currently, farmers and interior elevator operators are pursuing a tight holding policy, which is associated with a small 1962 crop, adequate storage, and prospects for continued large-scale exports, as well as high sedimentation values. Wheat production was forecast as of July 1 at 1,050 million bushels, which is around 150 million less than expected domestic use and exports, pointing to a reduction in year-end carryover.

As a result of the tight holding policy, wheat prices did not decline seasonally prior to the beginning of the new marketing year.

In recent years, the price of No. 2 Hard Winter at Kansas City has usually reached its seasonal low in late June or early July. In June 1961, it was 15 cents below the 1960 crop price support rate of \$2.07 and 13 cents below the seasonal high reached in February.

The price of wheat to U.S. farmers in 1962-63 is expected to average above the \$2.00 announced 1962 crop support. In 1961-62 the estimated U.S. average price of \$1.83 was 4 cents above the 1961-crop support rate of \$1.79.

Robert Post  
*Economic Research Service*



# outlook



## TURKEYS

Turkey growers, 57 percent of those voting, turned down a proposed marketing order. Supplies for the main marketing period (September–December) probably will be down about 10 percent from last year. Prices are likely to be moderately above the 18 cents per pound average for the period in 1961.

## FRUIT



Deciduous fruit production is expected to be about the same for 1962 as last year, but 6 percent above the 1951–60 average. A larger output of pears, grapes, prunes, and cherries than last year probably will be offset by a smaller production of apples, apricots, plums, and strawberries. Peaches, other than California clingstone, also are forecast down from 1961, with reductions mainly in early-harvesting States. During August and September, supplies of fresh citrus are likely to be lighter than a year earlier, because of reduced California production.

## LIVESTOCK

Meat production for the rest of 1962 is expected to be slightly larger than the same period in 1961. Larger supplies of beef and veal are likely to go to market, but pork, lamb, and mutton production likely will be down.

Steer and heifer prices probably will hold through the summer but decline in the fall. Late October and November prices likely will be below last year. A probable increase in fall culling of aged cows would lower cow prices.

Slaughter barrow and gilt prices are expected to increase to an early August peak and during July–September may be nearly as high as the \$18.13 average at 8 markets last year.

## EGGS

Egg production for the next 6 months is likely to average a little higher than in 1961. An expected gain in rate of lay in the third quarter will be likely offset by a smaller laying flock. Egg prices are likely to remain mostly lower than in 1961 because of reduced consumer demand. Total egg production probably will be up about 1 percent more for the entire year than in 1961.

## TOBACCO



Production is expected to be 4 percent higher this year than last, with the flue-cured crop the largest since 1956.

## COTTON

Planted acreage for the 1962 cotton crop is estimated at less than last year by 161 thousand acres, but it still is the second largest acreage since 1956 and represents about 90 percent of allotted acreage. The CCC will initiate a Cot-



ton Sales for Export Program for the 1962-63 marketing year on a competitive bid basis to supplement the Payment-in-Kind Program.

## DAIRY

Milk production in the second half of 1962 is likely to exceed the same period last year, but by less than the 3.2 percent increase of the last 6 months of 1961 over last half of 1960.

## FATS AND OILS

Soybean acreage for beans in 1962 is 2 percent higher than last year with a record 27.9 million acres. When the current marketing year ends September 30, soybean production, crushings, and exports probably will have reached new highs leaving total carryover at 50 million bushels, enough for about 1 month's crushings and exports.

## CROP ACREAGE—Continued

*Other Crops:* Tobacco production is indicated to be 4 percent larger than last year due to expanded allotments for flue-cured and burley. Average yield of all types of tobacco is slightly lower than last year's high of 1,753 pounds per acre. Record production of sugar crops is expected as acreages of both sugar cane and sugar beets continue to expand. A near-record sugar cane yield is forecast while sugar beets are expected to equal last year's 16.4 tons per acre. A 6 percent smaller production of dry beans is expected as lower yields more than made up for a 1-percent expansion in acreage. Acreage of dry peas is about the same as last year, but higher yields in all producing areas are expected to boost total production 24 percent over last year.

B. R. Bookhout  
*Statistical Reporting Service*

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# Safflower Expanding Rapidly As An Oilseed Crop

Safflower has recently come into the limelight as an edible vegetable oil, mainly because it contains a higher percentage of poly-unsaturated fatty acids than other fats and oils. The edible oil market appears to offer the greatest potential for the future development of safflower in the United States. Safflower oil can be used as a cooking and salad oil and in the manufacture of mayonnaise, salad dressings, margarine, and shortening.

Acreage planted to safflower trended upward slowly from 10,000 in 1948 to 100,000 in 1957. Most of the increase occurred in California. Since then, however, acreage has shot up rapidly, spurred by increased export demand for seed mainly from Japan, rising domestic industrial demand for the oil, and its growing demand as a food oil. According to trade estimates, 420,000 acres were planted to safflower in 1961, which yielded a crop of 180,000 tons of seed. A large part of the expanded acreage in recent years occurred in the Great Plains area. Current indications are that the 1962 acreage in this oil crop may reach a record 600,000.

In 1961, safflower seed prices to growers in California averaged \$86 per ton (pure basis) compared with \$78 per ton for the 1960 crop and \$75 in 1959.

Crushings of safflower seed from the 1961 crop reached a new high of over 100,000 tons (about double the 1959 and 1960 levels) which produced 75 million pounds of safflower oil. However, 45 million pounds were for edible market outlets compared with a mere 2 million the year before. Because of increased crushings in 1961, seed exports totaled only 73,000 tons, a drop of 36,000 tons from the year earlier.

Reflecting the increased demand for limited supplies, monthly average prices of safflower oil (tanks, New York) have advanced rather steadily from 15.2 cents per pound in October 1960 to 19.3 cents in July 1962, the highest price level of record. The tight supply situation for oil probably will not be alleviated until 1962 crop oil becomes available in volume in September.

George W. Kromer  
*Economic Research Service*



# FOREIGN MARKETS STILL LARGEST OUTLET FOR SURPLUS NONFAT DRY MILK

In fiscal 1961-62 USDA expected to dispose of nearly a billion pounds of surplus nonfat dry milk purchased under the support program for dairy products. About 735 million pounds will move into foreign outlets and 230 million pounds into domestic distribution.

There was no serious surplus problem for nonfat dry milk until the end of World War II. In the middle 1930's farmers began to increase the quantities of milk solids-not-fat available for human food by shifting from the sale of cream to the sale of whole milk. During World War II and immediately after, a large part of the increasing quantities of solids-not-fat marketed by farmers found ready outlets as nonfat dry milk for military, Lend Lease, and other wartime uses or for aid to wartorn countries. Milk production increased substantially to meet these needs.

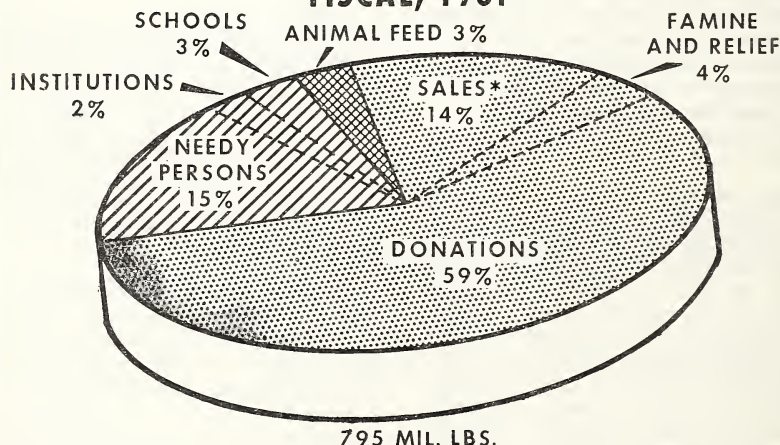
These markets disappeared shortly after the war, and in 1947 USDA bought

211 million pounds of nonfat dry milk for price support purposes. In 1949 purchases under the Agricultural Act of 1949 were 325 million pounds. Since then, except in 1951 and 1952 during the Korean War, Commodity Credit Corporation has taken delivery of over 500 million pounds of nonfat dry milk per year. In 1962 deliveries are likely to exceed 1,300 million pounds.

In order to dispose of such large quantities of nonfat dry milk without disturbing the commercial market, USDA has established distribution programs, both in the United States and to foreign countries.

USDA first satisfies requirements for distribution within the United States before committing any of its stocks for foreign distribution. Since World War II USDA has distributed, in domestic channels, a large part of the nonfat dry milk it purchased, to the needy, to institutions, or through the School Lunch Program. In addition, relatively small amounts have been fur-

## USDA DISPOSITION OF NONFAT DRY MILK, FISCAL, 1961



Foreign Domestic Animal Feed

\* SALES FOR FOREIGN CURRENCY, DOLLARS AND BARTER.

nished to the armed forces. Domestic distribution was relatively small from 1947 through 1953, rising to 50 million pounds for the first time in 1954. Since then, it has ranged from 90 million pounds in 1955 to 197 million pounds in 1961.

In the current year it is expected that about a quarter billion pounds will be distributed in domestic channels. An additional 5 to 10 million pounds will go to the military. The balance of USDA purchases of nonfat dry milk has moved into foreign channels as sales, emergency donations for famine and relief, and donations. Sales abroad include sales for dollars, for foreign currency, and for barter. Most of the sales have been made at concessional prices below the world market price, and substantially below USDA's purchase price.

Starting in fiscal 1955, most of the foreign disposal program has been carried out under Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended by P.L. 480. P.L. 480 is the popular name

for the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act. By June 30, 1962, exports of nonfat dry milk under this program amounted to about 4.1 billion pounds.

Sec. 416 authorized the donation of Government-owned stocks of commodities both to domestic and foreign outlets, while the amendments made by P.L. 480, in addition, made it possible to reprocess, handle, and package them and transport them to domestic recipients or to foreign countries at no cost to the recipient. When the financial condition of a country warrants it, the United States can pay all costs except those of internal transportation and distribution within the recipient country. In some countries, the funds available for even such a small part of the cost limit the amount of donated commodities the country can utilize.

Nonfat dry milk has been in considerable demand for improving the nutrition of underdeveloped countries.

Anthony G. Mathis  
*Economic Research Service*

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## Cattle On Feed Increase 4 Percent

On July 1, cattle feeders had slightly over 6 million head of cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in 26 major feeding States—North Central States, Western States, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, and Texas. This was 4 percent higher than the 5.8 million head on feed in these States July 1 a year ago but seasonally lower than the 7.2 million head on feed April 1. Most of the increase in number on feed over a year earlier occurred in those cattle and calves weighing less than 700 pounds.

The North Central region with 3.9 million head on feed showed a 2 percent decline from a year earlier. Only three States in this region (Kansas, South Dakota, and Michigan) had increases in cattle feeding. The 11 Western States with nearly 1.9 million head on feed showed an 18 percent increase in cattle feeding. California was up 23 percent, Colorado increased 8 percent and Arizona was 35 percent higher. In this region, only Montana, Wyoming, and Nevada were lower than a year earlier.

The breakdown by weight groups shows those animals weighing less than 500 pounds up 36 percent from July 1, 1961; those in the 500-699-pound group up 26 percent; and those in the 700-899- and 900-1099-pound groups both 1 percent higher. The number weighing 1,100 pounds and over was down 35 percent.

On July 1 there were 9 percent more cattle and calves that had been on feed less than 3 months, and 8 percent more that had been on feed 3 to 6 months. The number on feed over 6 months was 7 percent below July 1 last year.

During April, May, and June, cattle and calves placed on feed were up 8 percent, and marketings of fed cattle were up 2 percent compared with a year earlier.

Cattle feeders expect to market about 3.3 million head of fed cattle during July-September this year—nearly the same number as for this period in 1961.

Dan L. Herbert  
*Statistical Reporting Service*



# CALF CROP UP 2 PERCENT IN 1962

The 1962 calf crop is expected to total 40.5 million head—2 percent higher than both the previous year and the 1951-60 average. This would be the largest calf crop since 1956. With the exception of the North Atlantic and East North Central areas, which are slightly lower, all other areas anticipate increases from 1961.

The larger 1962 calf crop is the result of more cows and heifers on farms. Cows and heifers 2 years old and older, on January 1, 1962, totaled 47.3 million head, up 2 percent from the 46.4 million head January 1 a year earlier. The number of calves born and expected to be born this year is 86 percent of the cows and heifers 2 years old and older on January 1, 1962. This percentage is the same as both 1961 and the 10-year average.

In the North Central Region, Kansas shows the largest increase from the 1961 calf crop—up 4 percent, followed by Missouri—up 3 percent, and South Dakota and Nebraska—each up 2 percent. However, Ohio is down 2 percent,

and Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin are down 1 percent.

In the South Atlantic Region 6 States expect greater calf crops in 1962. Florida indicates a 5 percent gain over 1961, and South Carolina and Georgia show increases of 3 percent and 2 percent, respectively. The 8 States in the South Central Region each expect a larger calf crop than in 1961, except Louisiana which is unchanged. Texas, Oklahoma, and Kentucky, the largest cattle States in this area, are up 2 percent, 6 percent, and 5 percent, respectively.

The 1962 calf crop in the Western Region is expected to be higher than 1961 in 8 States, slightly smaller in Montana and Arizona, and unchanged in Oregon. New Mexico shows a 5 percent gain and Colorado and Nevada are each up 3 percent. California, the leading cattle State in the West, indicates a 2 percent larger calf crop.

Ray S. Crickenberger  
*Statistical Reporting Service*

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## Lamb Crop Down 4 Percent

The 1962 lamb crop totaled 20,358,000 head, 4 percent less than the 21,277,000 lambs saved in 1961, but 2 percent above the 1951-60 average. This was the largest decline in the lamb crop for any year since 1949. The 13 Western sheep States (11 Western States, South Dakota, and Texas) produced 4 percent fewer lambs in 1962 than a year earlier, but 6 percent more than average. The lamb crop in the 35 Native sheep States (excludes 13 Western States) was 5 percent smaller than last year and 5 percent below average.

The lamb crop percentage (number of lambs saved per 100 ewes 1 year old or older on farms and ranches January 1) this year at 94 percent was 1 point below 1961, but the same as the 10-year average. The lambing percentage in both the Western and Native States was off 1 point from a year earlier at 90 and 104 respectively.

The 1962 lamb crop in the 13 Western States totaled 13,430,000 head—4

percent below the 14,020,000 lambs saved in 1961, but 6 percent above average. Breeding ewes one year old and older on farms and ranches January 1, 1962 declined 3 percent from 1961. The number of early lambs (dropped before March 15) in the Western States was 1 percent less than a year earlier. In Texas, where approximately 15 percent of the Nation's lambs are produced, the 1962 crop was 6 percent below 1961, but 11 percent above average. The Texas lambing percentage at 75 compares with 79 a year ago and the average of 74.

The lamb crop at 6,928,000 head in the 35 Native sheep States was 5 percent below the 7,257,000 lambs saved in 1961 and 5 percent below average. The smaller lamb crop resulted from a 4 percent drop in ewes and a 1 point reduction in lambing percentage.

F. W. Griffith  
*Statistical Reporting Service*



# PROCESSED FRUIT HAS GIANT BITE OF CHERRY MARKET

The cherry crop has increased in size about 5 times over the past four decades and now includes more tart cherries. During the last four years, production of sweet cherries averaged around 85,500 tons and that of tart cherries about 130,700 tons, 60 percent of the total. Cherry production, especially tart kinds, varies quite a bit from year to year.

California, Oregon, and Washington are by far the leading sweet cherry producing States. Michigan is out in front on tart cherry production with well over half the crop in the last four years. New York comes up second.

Around 95 percent of all tart cherries were canned or frozen last year—compared with 85 percent 20 years earlier. We eat most of our tart cherries in pies—the rest go into other bakery goods, juice, jam, and jelly. We buy

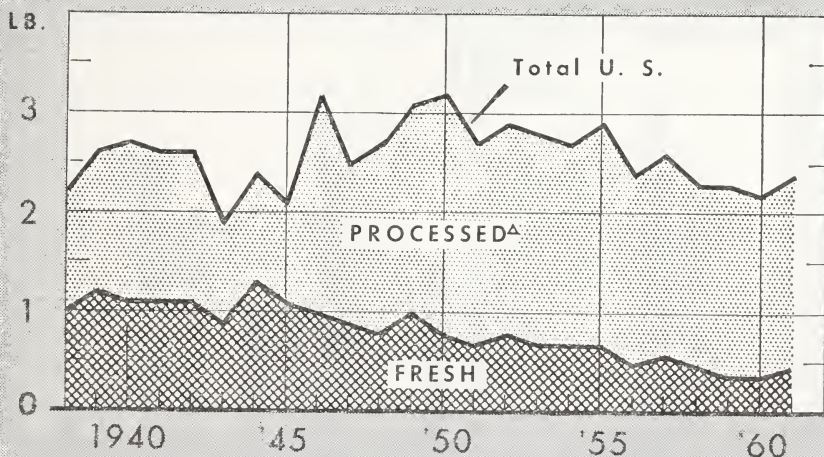
nearly two-thirds of our sweet cherries canned, brined (maraschino and candied cherries), or frozen. Two decades ago, about half were purchased this way. Some processed sweet cherry products are juice, wine, and preserves.

We're still eating about the same amount of cherries per person as in the '30's although there's been some shifting among types. We now eat more processed cherries and more of them are frozen or initially brined. Consumption of all varieties, fresh and processed on a fresh basis, averaged at about 2.3 pounds for the last four years. This was a little more than one percent of all fruit used per capita. The 2.3 pound total split up into 20 percent fresh cherries, 31 percent canned, 29 percent frozen, and 20 percent brined.

Ben Pubols  
*Economic Research Service*

## CHERRY CONSUMPTION PER PERSON\*

*Fresh Equivalent Basis*



\* ALL SWEET AND SOUR VARIETIES. ^ CANNED, BRINED, AND FROZEN.  
1961 PRELIMINARY.

# THE EDUCATIONAL LEVELS OF OUR HIRED FARMWORKERS

How much schooling do hired farmworkers have? How does their education compare with that of other persons? Do farm wage workers with more schooling earn higher wages than those with less schooling?

Results of a nationwide survey conducted for ERS by the Bureau of the Census provide answers to these and similar questions. For example, the average person who did farm wage work in 1960 had completed 8.5 years of school. Farm wage workers 45 and over averaged only 6.2 years of school.

Compared with all persons between 25 and 44 years old, who averaged more than 12 years of school, the average farm wage worker had failed to complete 8 years of grammar school.

Partly because of differences in the type of farm jobs done, hired farmworkers with at least one year of high school earned higher daily wages (\$8.50 per day) than did workers with less than 5 years of school (\$5.00 per day).

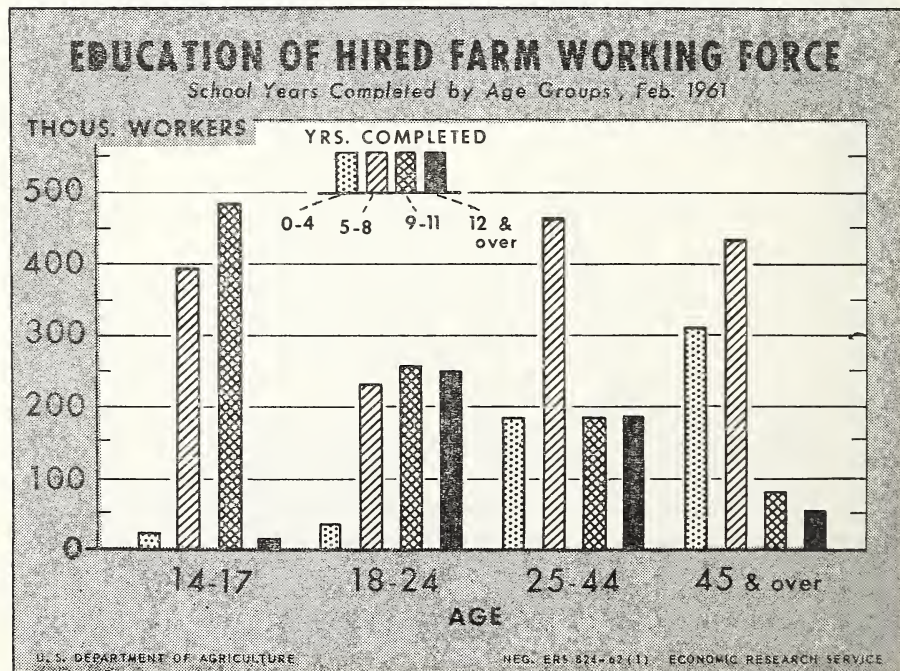
Over the past 20 years the average amount of schooling received by workers in most occupations has increased, but the educational level of farmworkers has remained about the same since 1920.

The comparatively low level of education of farm wage workers is probably one reason why better-paying nonfarm jobs are hard to get and why farmworkers often are unable to find any kind of work.

In the future, farmers will probably need a larger number of better trained and better educated workers to operate and maintain the many kinds of machines and equipment used in farming.

A complete report of the research is contained in Agriculture Information Bulletin 262, and may be obtained by writing to The Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

James D. Cowhig  
*Economic Research Service*





## Meet The State Statistician . . .



### CLARENCE D. CAPAROON

When Clarence D. Caparoon takes it easy, he enjoys an afternoon of golf on some green Wisconsin course, or a camping trip to some forest glen with his family. The green grass of his adopted State is very much a part of his professional life, too, for as State statistician, it is a major consideration in calculating Wisconsin's agricultural production.

Wisconsin, our leading milk producer, is largely dependent upon grassland and nature's best grass converter, the cow, for 52 percent of the State's income. It produces twice as much milk as our number two dairying State, Minnesota. Wisconsin is also our top producer of cheese—our second highest producer of butter, and evaporated and condensed milk.

Reporting Wisconsin's agricultural production is Caparoon's job, and his 27 years of experience indicate a background that qualifies him well as keeper of the State's production statistics.

He spent his boyhood on a Minnesota farm, was graduated from the University of Minnesota in agricultural economics and statistics in 1933, and received a M.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1948 in agricultural economics.

At one time his ambition was to become a cereal chemist, but because of a change of interests he switched his

career to agricultural economics and statistics.

In 1937 he married Irene Winjum of Faribault whom he met through his contact with the county agent's office where she worked. They have two children—a married daughter, Patricia Webster, and a son, Douglas, now at Platteville State College in Wisconsin.

Caparoon first went to work for the United States Department of Agriculture in 1935 in the Minnesota State statistician's office. He later went to the Washington, D.C., office in 1937, the Pennsylvania office in 1939, back to the Washington, D.C., office as statistical clearance officer in 1942, and finally to Wisconsin in 1945 where he became the agricultural statistician-in-charge in 1957.

Wisconsin is a State in which agriculture is especially dynamic, with emphasis on commercialism and big investment. It is a State pioneered by the Scandinavians, the Germans, and the Swiss who established an agriculture based largely on a livestock-dairy economy—garnished with a high output of sweet corn, beans, beets, peas, cranberries, and cherries (most of which are canned).

In this environment it is not surprising that Caparoon hopes his son will select some career dealing with the science of agriculture.





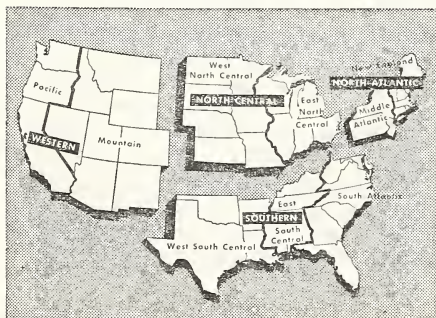
Growth Through Agricultural Progress

**August 1962**

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